

Appln. No. 09/855,596
Amendment dated: June 30, 2004
Reply to Office Action of April 6, 2004

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-8 have been canceled. Claims 9-11 remain in this application.

Applicant makes note of paragraphs 3, 4 and 5 of the above-noted Office Action.

In response to paragraph 1 of the Office Action, Applicant has canceled claims 1-8 per the Examiner's suggestion.

In response to paragraph 2 of the Office Action, Applicant has corrected the lettering of claim 9 so that the term "e)" now properly reads as "d)".

In the above-noted Office Action, the Examiner cited Boden et al., US 6,243,759 (hereinafter "Boden") as allegedly anticipating the invention as defined by claims 9-11 currently pending. Applicant traverses the objection by noting that Boden does not disclose a source address field denoting an address of a source optical device per claims 9-11. As Boden notes in column 3 lines 53-55, it is concerned with

a method and system for establishing routing paths among offices within a system including both wide area networks (WANs) and local area networks (LANs) .

There is no specific mention in Boden of methods, datagrams or communications systems to be used for controlling at least one optical device, the subject matter of current claims 9-11.

Applicant further traverses the objection by noting that Boden does not disclose a destination field denoting an address of a destination optical device. Boden merely discloses a conventional datagram for use with conventional computer networks as evidenced by column 8 lines 38-40 where conventional computer systems, such as the IBM AS/400, IBM System/390 and the IBM Personal Computer, are disclosed as being exemplary examples of systems which may be used with the invention. As asserted

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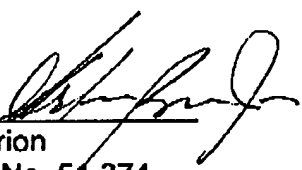
above, Boden does not mention nor even suggest optical devices as either source or destination devices.

Applicant also respectfully submits that Boden does not disclose the internal use of the datagram by a control system for communicating between different modules in the control system. Boden does not, in fact, disclose a control system at all. Boden does disclose Routing IP (RIP) messages but these are not used by a control system to communicate to and from optical devices. Applicant respectfully submits that the present invention is concerned with control systems for optical devices and datagrams and methods for such control systems. As such, since Boden is not concerned with and does not even mention optical devices, much less the control systems used for controlling such optical devices, it is respectfully submitted that Boden cannot anticipate nor even render the present invention obvious.

Based on the above submission, Applicant respectfully submits that the present application is in condition for allowance. Such action is respectfully requested and if the application is subsequently found to still be lacking, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned agent by the telephone at 613-238-6404 to address any further issues.

Respectfully submitted,
Wayne Lee et al

June 30, 2004

Per: 
Art Brion
Reg. No. 50,374
Cassan Maclean
Suite 401, 80 Aberdeen Street
Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K1S 5R5

Telephone: (613) 230-6404
Facsimile: (613) 230-8755